Valans, etc., in the Police Department.

133. മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കരുപ്പൻ.—താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് ഗവർമ്മേണ്ട് സദയം മറുപടി പറയുമൊ?

(1) അരയന്മാരിലും വാലന്മാരിലും നിന്ന് എത്രപേർപോലീസ്സ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽ നിയമിക്കപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്?

(2) അരയ, വാല, പോലീസ്സുകാരുടെ നിയമനങ്ങളുടെ കൊല്ലം, മാസം, തിയ്യതികളും അവരിൽ എത്രപേർക്ക് സ്ഥിരം കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നും സദയം പറയുമൊ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ഷേക്ക് അബ്ദുൽകാദർ സാഹിബ് ബഹദൂർ—(1) ഏഴുപേർ.

(2)

1	5—	5—	98
2	16—	6—	95
3	5—	1—	00
4	10—	8—	96
5	3—	8—	00
6	10—	12—	92
7	9—	2—	97

മൂന്നുപേർക്ക് സ്ഥിരം കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്.

The sale of rose-wood logs.

134. Mr. A. B. Salem.—(1) Will the Government be pleased to inform, if they have seen the current notice issued by the Conservator of Forests for the sale of 102 new rose-wood logs of about 437 candies;

(2) has the said notice been sanctioned or approved by the Government;

(3) has the Government noticed the fact that logs are lying at Parayankandam, 48½ miles on the Tramway;

(4) is the Government aware of the fact that during the monsoon many people will not risk the journey of 48½ miles into the forest to inspect the logs;

(5) is the Government aware of the fact that the notice of three weeks is not sufficient to attract bidders;

(6) is the Government aware of the fact that it causes great hardship to merchants to ask them to pay for things in full before delivery, dependent on unforeseen circumstances;

(7) will the Government be pleased to State what objections there are to hold the sale after bringing down the timber at Chalakkudi, so that many probable bidders can inspect same to ensure better results in the auction sale;

(8) is there any reason for not publishing in the notice of sale the dimensions of the logs?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) It has been approved.

(3) Yes.

(4) The Government are not aware.

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(5) The Government are not aware.

(6) The Government are not aware.

(7) The amount has to be realised this year, and transport by Tramway is not possible before the middle of Chingam.

(8) There is no particular reason; it is not done, as it serves no useful purpose. The quality of the logs is not known by their dimensions, and an actual inspection of the logs is required to know their quality.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—(4, 5 and 6). The same answer, "Government are not aware" is given.

President.—There is no fact to be investigated here. It is only an ordinary auction. If you are interested in the purchase of these logs, you will have to go and see these logs yourself, and there are the transport facilities afforded to you. Government are not aware of the difficulties in the matter.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Only four persons have applied, as is given in the answer to my first question, and the paucity of the bidders is due to these facts.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—I never said four persons. There was a very keen competition.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There were only 7 persons.

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—No. There were 11. It was an auction in which ordinary people could not take part. The amount required was 17,000 rupees.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The Government say they are not aware of the fact that the notice of three weeks is not sufficient to attract bidders. There are many persons who have not received this notification. Europeans in Wynaad, who were prepared to bid, did not know about it.

President.—How is this notice served? You publish it in the Gazette?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—Before that, I get a typed notice, and circulate it to all people who, I know, are likely to bid.

President.—To how many did you send the notice?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—To all those who, I know, are likely to take part in the bidding. First, I sent the typed notice, and when the printed one came, I sent again.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I am sure the Hon'ble Member will admit that this rose-wood goes mainly to the European market. The three weeks' notice will not even enable a letter to get into that market. There were several Europeans who were prepared to bid. Knowing full well that this article is intended for that market, why was not a longer notice given, so that all people, who desire to bid, may make their arrangements? You give 3 weeks' notice, and the reason given is clear from the next answer. The amount has to be realised this year. The article is still in the Forest. It is not cut down.

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President.—Because, if we transport them this year, it will go against the provisions of the contract.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There is a fallacy there, because the contract is only for the logs cut down at that time. So, this new cutting is not covered by the contract at all.

President.—If we were to transport the timber by the Tramway, before the term of the contract is over, that is, before the close of 1102, we will be violating the provisions of the contract.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I have got a copy of it.

President.—This is a matter into which I have gone very thoroughly. I have satisfied myself that, if logs are transported this year, we will be violating the terms of the contract.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—You have yourself said in this House that no one is infallible. I wish to know the provisions of the contract. I don't think it is covered by the contract.

President.—There may be questions to which my attention might not have been drawn; even now, I contend that no one is infallible, and I am no exception. I simply said that I had gone into the question carefully. I shall, if necessary, revise my opinion. I told you that, according to the terms in the contract, that new cutting should not be sold after transport, during the currency of the lease, and if it is transported within this year, we will be prohibited from selling them. Early next year, we will transport them. Just to get out of the restricted provision, we have to wait till then.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—No period of any kind is fixed. It may be in Chingam.

President.—Have you got that Notification? There it is stated "during the middle of Chingam."

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Clause (9) of the Notification says "Logs will be delivered before the end of Chingam 1103, if nothing unforeseen happens."

Mr. A. B. Salem.—During the currency of this contract, no rose-wood is to be sold, and we see the contract, from the answer given to-day, is for 3,800 candies, and in that you have only supplied somewhere near 2,300 and odd candies. So there are 1,0 0 and odd candies remaining, to be forwarded under the contract.

President.—There also I differ. 3,800 candies have to be given to that man, provided we have that quantity. But, all that we have agreed to do is to give timber that has been cut at the time of the contract. If it is 3,800 candies, all right, let him have it, and if it falls short of that, let him take that.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—"Timber that was cut at the time of the contract." Then, where was the urgency to give this new contract?

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President.—At the same time we wanted not to go out of the provisions of the contract. Then we will be sinning against the provisions of the same.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—But you are only liable to give him the quantity that is cut.

President.—You have taken up a position, and we have taken up a position. We cannot convince ourselves. You may be right or we are right. I cannot allow a discussion like this.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—My question about the notice being insufficient has not been answered.

President.—It may be your impression that three weeks' notice is insufficient. Government think it sufficient. You might think that a notice of three weeks is utterly insufficient; Government thought it was sufficient for their needs.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—My point is I tabled this question on 25th June, i. e., before the notification. The reply of the Government was the notification. I brought this matter to your notice, that the time fixed for the sale is not sufficient—it was on 25th June I tabled this question—and then we find, later on, on the 3rd of Karkadagam, the sale is to be held with three weeks' notice.

President.—You will remember there is no want of *bona fides*. The Conservator had prepared everything in connection with the sale, and then it was your question came, and we sent it to him.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Was not the Government's attention called upon? Would that be a sound position, Sir, when the attention of the Government was drawn by means of my question that the notice is insufficient? I wanted to call the attention of the Government by that question. These questions are put with a purpose, and not for the purpose of satisfying my personal curiosity. It is only in the interests of public life I put the question. I put this question to draw the attention of the Government as to the insufficiency of notice, but the reply is "let the notice go." That, I beg to submit, Sir, is very hard, and, to say mildly, that the notice was sufficient!

Then, coming to (7), what was the difficulty here, regarding the transport by Tramway? What was the amount to be realised this year? Could we not wait to realise that money, and realise more money later on? I think it is for the purpose of adjusting the Budget. What is the reason, Sir?

President.—The reason is given.

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